

CURRICULUM VITAE

Christine Bichsel

Nationality: Swiss
Date of birth: 04.01.1973
Place of birth: Hasle b. Burgdorf
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Current position

02. 2010 – today **Postdoctoral researcher**
Department of Geosciences, Geography Unit, University of Fribourg
Research project: Territory in Socialist Central Asia: A political history of Soviet
modernity (1953-1982)
Teaching and supervision responsibilities

Academic qualifications

06. 2002 – 06. 2006 **PhD in Geography (Dr.phil.nat)**
Institute of Geography, University of Berne
Thesis: Dangerous Divisions: Irrigation Disputes and Conflict Transformation in the
Ferghana Valley
Supervisor: Professor Urs Wiesmann

10. 1993 – 05. 1999 **MSc in Geography (lic.phil.nat.)**
Institute of Geography, University of Berne
Thesis: Dynamik der Handelsbeziehungen und ihre Bedeutung für den sozio-
ökonomischen Wandel in der Region Khumbu, Nepal
Supervisor: Professor Urs Wiesmann

04. 1988 – 06. 1993 **Baccalaureate**
Gymnasium Burgdorf
Type E (law and economy)

Professional training

2010 - today **Diploma course in Higher Education and Educational Technology**
Centre de Didactique Universitaire, University of Fribourg
Planned graduation in 2012 with Diploma in Advanced Studies (30 ECTS)

09.2000 – 07.2001 **Foreign language student**
Beijing Normal University, Beijing, China
Chinese language studies completed with proficiency diploma (HSK)

Professional experience

01. – 12. 2009 **Postdoctoral researcher**
University Research Priority Programme (URPP) Asia and Europe, Zurich
Research project: Development, subjectivity and territory in Central Asia
Teaching responsibilities
02. 2008 – 02. 2009 **Visiting researcher**
Department of Geography, National University of Singapore, Singapore
Research project: Developing borderlands: Geographical perspectives on development, state and subjectivity at the Central and Southeast Asian borders
06. 2002 – 06. 2006 **PhD candidate and researcher**
swisspeace / Swiss Peace Foundation, Berne
Research for Environmental Change and Conflict Transformation project of National Centre for Competence in Research (NCCR) North-South
Supervision responsibilities
09. 2001 – 08. 2005 **Project assistant**
Centre for Development and Environment (CDE), Berne
Organisation of conferences and workshops, editing of conference proceedings, knowledge management for publications, general research administration
04. – 07. 2000 **Project assistant**
Swiss Fund for Needy Victims of the Holocaust / Shoa, Berne
Database management, transcription and verification of data in Russian
07. 1998 – 05. 1999 **Librarian assistant**
11. 1999 – 06. 2000 Swiss Federal Military Library, Berne
Thematic research, indexing, secretarial tasks

Organisation of conferences and workshops

26. – 27.05.2011 **International Workshop “Central Asia – on the way to modernity?”**, Basel
In collaboration with Joern Happel (University of Basel) and Julia Obertreis (University of Freiburg, Germany)
Workshop content and administrative organisation
01. – 13.09.2003 **Integrated Training Course of NCCR North-South programme, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan**
Coordination of poster exhibition
09. – 20.09.2002 **Integrated Training Course of NCCR North-South programme, Aeschried**
Administrative co-organisation
- 30.09. – 04.10.2001 **World Mountain Symposium, Interlaken**
Administrative co-organisation and secretariat, accounting, editing of proceedings

Consultancies

06. – 08.2010 **Consultant for German Technical Cooperation (GIZ)**
Programme “Reform of Educational Systems in Central Asia” (Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan)
Leading project evaluation team to assess first phase of the programme by means of interviews, site visits and document analyses
02. – 05.2007 **Consultant for GIZ**
“Capacity Building Project for Food Security, Regional Cooperation and Conflict Mitigation” (Kyrgyzstan)
Leading and training conflict analysis team to produce eight case studies, capitalisation report on GTZ project experience, analytical report on development aid to southern Kyrgyzstan

Refereeing

Central Asian Survey, Environment and Planning D: Society and Space, International Migration, Water Alternatives, Geographica Helvetica, Asiatische Studien/Etudes asiatiques

Fieldwork experiences

Nepal	09 – 12.1997
Kyrgyzstan	06.2002; 02 – 07.2003; 03 – 08.2004; 05 – 08.2005
Uzbekistan	09.2004
Tajikistan	10.2004; 10.2010 – 03.2011
Russian Federation	02.2012

Language skills

German	Native
English	Fluent in speaking, reading and writing
French	Fluent in speaking and reading, good level in writing
Russian	Fluent in speaking and reading, good level in writing
Mandarin	Good level in speaking, basic level in reading and writing
Kyrgyz	Basic level in speaking, reading and writing

Membership of professional organisations

CESS	Member of Central Eurasian Studies Society (since 2008)
SAG	Member of Schweizerische Asiengesellschaft (since 2012)